



**IDEAS GROW HERE**

# 2027 CHALLENGES + COMPETITIONS

ANNUAL EVENTS OFFER PRIZES, MENTORING AND MORE!

## FORM A TEAM + START YOUR JOURNEY

Competitions are open to students enrolled and in good standing at an accredited college or university in WA, OR, ID, British Columbia, and Alaska. Some additional rules apply.

**Sign up for weekly office hours or contact us directly at [startup.uw.edu](http://startup.uw.edu) to learn more.**

### HEALTH INNOVATION CHALLENGE

Have an idea that could improve health or healthcare? Bring it to the 2027 Health Innovation Challenge (HIC)! Get feedback from local experts, meet potential collaborators, and make connections that can help move your work forward. Form your team and get ready for HIC 2027!

**Challenge Day is Feb. 25**

**Learn more at: [hic.uw.edu](http://hic.uw.edu)**

**Questions? E-mail Marghe Guaita at: [mguaita@uw.edu](mailto:mguaita@uw.edu)**

**ENTRY APPLICATION DEADLINE: JAN. 25**

Submit a 5-7 page business summary for official entry

**FINAL ROUND RESOURCE NIGHT (VIRTUAL): FEB. 11**

At least one student team member must attend

**FINAL ROUND PITCH WORKSHOP (VIRTUAL): FEB. 16**

At least one student team member must attend

**BUSINESS SUMMARY DEADLINE: FEB. 18**

Submit a 1-page summary for judges ahead of Challenge Day



### SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY SHOWCASE OPEN TO UW UNDERGRADUATE AND GRADUATE STUDENTS

The Science & Engineering Business Association (SEBA) and the Buerk Center host this event every January for students to explore the commercialization or business potential of their science- and technology-based ideas and win funding prizes. Teams pitch to industry experts and receive direct feedback.

**Learn more at [uwseba.com/sts](http://uwseba.com/sts)**



## 2027 CHALLENGES + COMPETITIONS

LAUNCHED 2,000+ COMPANIES & AWARDED MILLIONS IN FUNDING



### DEMPSEY STARTUP COMPETITION

The 2027 Dempsey Startup Competition is open to all kinds of ideas! This new venture competition brings together students from a variety of majors, degrees, disciplines, and schools looking to take the next step with their ideas. These startups focus on everything from high-tech and non-profit ideas to consumer products, healthcare, AI, sustainability and more!

**More details at [bpc.uw.edu](http://bpc.uw.edu)**

**Questions? Contact Yuko Oaku at [yukooaku@uw.edu](mailto:yukooaku@uw.edu)**

#### ENTRY APPLICATION DEADLINE: APRIL 5

Submit a 5–7 page executive summary for official entry

#### RESOURCE NIGHT FOR INVESTMENT ROUND TEAMS: APRIL 15

At least one student team member must attend

#### INVESTMENT ROUND: MAY 6

Similar to a tradeshow, this stage is for the Top 36 to 40 teams, ending with the selection of the Sweet 16 — Executive Summary must be submitted in advance

#### VIRTUAL COACHING ROUND: MAY 19

Non-competitive, mandatory virtual session for Sweet 16 teams

#### SWEET 16 ROUND: MAY 27 (AM)

Teams will submit a 15–20 page business plan by May 20 and a PPT pitch deck by the morning of May 27 — Top 4 teams advance to Final Round

#### FINAL ROUND: MAY 27 (PM)

Team presentations in front of select panel of judges — Final Round is open to the public for viewing

#### AWARDS DINNER: THE EVENING OF MAY 27 FOLLOWING FINAL ROUND

### COMPETITION PREPARATION FOR ALL UW STUDENTS

#### TEAM TUESDAY LUNCH MEETUPS

Students from all programs and majors are welcome to explore and pitch their ideas, gain connections and form teams at this weekly event!

#### EXPERIENTIAL WORKSHOPS

Join us for topical workshops to explore innovation in health, sustainability, and more! In Fall and Winter quarters, we host hackathon-inspired events for students to come together to ideate on solutions in digital health and sustainability, and receive feedback from industry leaders.

**Learn more at [startup.uw.edu](http://startup.uw.edu)**

#### BUSINESS PLAN PRACTICUM (ENTRE 440/540)

This 2-credit winter quarter course is taught by Christy Johnson, serial entrepreneur and CEO of the Artemis Connection. Students learn tangible ways to embrace failures and pivots on their way to taking their ideas to launch.

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**TO LEARN MORE, SIGN UP FOR THE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER AT [STARTUP.UW.EDU](http://STARTUP.UW.EDU)**